

VLR- 6/18/74 NRHP- 6/28/74

For. 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Virginia
COUNTY:	Nottoway
FCR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Schwartz Tavern
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 111 Tavern Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Blackstone		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Fifth (W. C. Daniel)	
STATE Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Nottoway	CODE 135

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC			
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Vacant

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: Multiple ownership (see continuation sheet)	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE: Virginia
	CODE 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Nottoway County Court House	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Nottoway	STATE: Virginia
	CODE 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	
DATE OF SURVEY: 1974	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	
STREET AND NUMBER: 221 Governor Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: Virginia
	CODE 51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia	COUNTY: Nottoway
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Schwartz Tavern is a ninety-nine-foot long structure set on a stone foundation and sheltered by a gable roof with dormers. The three sections of this structure run in a line roughly north-south; the north and middle blocks are attached while the south block is connected by a hyphen. The linear complex appears to have consisted originally of only the middle block, a three-bay, compact unit with exterior end stone and brick chimneys. This structure, only twenty-eight feet long by sixteen feet deep was first enlarged by extending the building to the north and at the same time deepening the chimney on that end so as to serve the addition as well. At some time no later than the 1840's the block to the south, with its central chimney, was constructed and perhaps was connected immediately to the existing buildings by an enclosed hyphen or breezeway. The date of the porch and wings on the east front of the structure is not known but the demioctagonal room filling in the remaining gap between the middle and south blocks and the main doorway treatment on the west front date from around 1900.

The window treatment is relatively consistent over the entire length of the tavern using six-over-nine sash, narrow Federal-period muntins and simple framing. Earlier muntins of the robust colonial type can be found in the dormer and gable end windows of the original block. Early beaded weatherboarding survives on most exterior walls as does the beaded corner-boards and the box cornice with bed-and-crown moldings.

The interior trim may be characterized as Federal in style based primarily on the form of the four downstairs mantles. The most ornate of the four is on the north wall of the original middle block. It has symmetrically molded pilasters supporting a projecting block with an elliptical sunburst; this sunburst is repeated in the projecting central block on a larger scale. A molded cornice shelf tops the design. A raised panel over-mantle from an earlier mantle design is exposed over the newer cornice shelf. All wall surfaces in this room are sheathed in approximately one-foot-wide horizontal beaded siding. A narrow enclosed stair leads to the attic at the southwest corner and a partially enclosed stair in the northeast corner leads to the room above the northern block. The attic over the original block retains a rail around the stair well with heavily turned balusters. The mantle in the northern room of the tavern has reeded pilasters and projecting end blocks with a three-paneled frieze and dentiled cornice. To the west of the fireplace are a small cupboard and a now-blocked entrance to the attic above, both with paneled doors and H-and-L hinges. A simple beaded board chair rail is used here.

The southern block of the tavern has two mantles on either side of the central chimney and the molding profiles indicate a later construction date for this section even though the basic design of the woodwork is similar to that in earlier rooms. The northern room in this block has a cupboard with glazed upper door at the west of the chimney. Simple beaded board chair rails are used here. Two frame outbuildings to the south of the tavern share a single stone chimney with brick stack; both are in a deteriorated condition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian    ☐ 16th Century    ☒ 18th Century    ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century    ☐ 17th Century    ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1798

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Schwartz Tavern is Blackstone's oldest building, and has important associations with the town's early history. With most of its original fabric intact the rambling ninety-nine-foot long structure is also an interesting example of an early southside ordinary. The exact construction date of the building's oldest section is unknown but stylistic evidence indicates the late-eighteenth-century period. Local tradition has it that just prior to the Revolution two tavern keepers, a Mr. White and a Mr. Schwartz, operated rival tavern's at the intersection of Cooke's, Hungary-towne and Old Church Roads. Evidence of early activity in this area is confirmed by a deed transferring 140 acres from Peter Randolph to John A. Schwartz in 1790, with a location given as "cross road of Cock's, Jordans and Gryers near Francis White's Tavern . . ." An ordinary license granted to John Schwartz was recorded in 1798.

Because Schwartz is the German word for black, the crossroads at the tavern became known as Black's and White's Taverns, and later simply Black and Whites. The town that grew up there after the Civil War was named Blackstone in honor of the noted English jurist, although it is widely held that the name is a partial allusion to Blacks or Schwartz.

Although the building has fallen into deteriorated condition in recent years, the fact that it is Blackstone's chief historic landmark has recently prompted a movement for its preservation.

T.H.H.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A. B. Cummins, Nottoway County Virginia (1970).  
 Nottoway County Deed Book, I: 73 (1790).  
 Nottoway County Order Book, 1798, p. 139.  
 W. R. Turner, Old Homes and Families in Nottoway (1932).  
 Files of Virginia Historic landmarks Commission.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA.

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			U R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds		LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		38 04 53	77 0 59 45	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre.

- LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CCODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	
ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	DATE: June, 1974
STREET AND NUMBER: 221 Governor Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: Virginia
	CODE: 51

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION.

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Junius R. Fishburne, Jr.  
 Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director  
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 18 1974

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
VIRGINIA	
COUNTY	
NOTTOWAY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

4.

Helen Anderson Miller, Norfolk, Virginia

Virginia Anderson Perkinson)

Russell S. Perkinson ) Petersburg, Virginia

Kathleen S. Anderson, Wilmington, N.C.

Elizabeth Anderson Barefoot)

Murray Barefoot ) Wilmington, N.C.

Mary Silver Anderson, Washington, D. C.

Mary Claiborne Anderson, Washington, D. C.

